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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-eighth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011
(Item 3 (b))

Part one
Plan outline

1. At its 7th meeting, on 16 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered Part one, plan outline, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011 (A/63/6 (Part one)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. General appreciation was expressed for presenting a document that adhered to General Assembly resolutions 58/269, 59/275, 61/235 and 62/224.

4. It was recalled that the General Assembly in its resolution 58/269 had affirmed that the strategic framework, consisting of part one; a plan outline, and part two; a biennial programme plan, should constitute the principal policy directive of the Organization and should serve as the basis for programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. Views were expressed that part one would reflect the longer-term objectives of the Organization while part two would cover a two-year period.

5. Views were expressed emphasizing the importance of the strategic framework, as it steered the direction of the Organization and represented the basis for

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programme planning and budgeting. The view was also expressed that the strategic framework must contribute to strengthening the United Nations at all levels and make the United Nations more effective and efficient. It was noted that the plan outline should reflect efforts made to implement the Millennium Development Goals and the outcomes of relevant major international conferences and summits. Support was expressed for maintaining the eight priorities identified since 1998 as priority areas for the period 2010-2011.

6. The clear explanation contained in section II, "Longer-term objectives of the Organization", was welcomed. The need to further prioritize through the elaboration of core issues was emphasised in order to prevent the Organization from becoming strained and overburdened. It was also observed that for some of the elements addressed in section II legislative mandates did not exist, while there were mandated priorities, including development, to which limited consideration had been given as part of the priority areas of the Organization. Concern was expressed at the lack of reference to the strengthening of the development pillar as a priority item for the Organization.

7. Views were expressed in favour of the creation of a more robust and modern Organization, through full accountability to Member States and within the Secretariat. The approach of strengthening the Organization through the establishment of an accountability framework was welcomed. Appreciation was expressed for the use of results-based budgeting as a tool to achieve accountability and, in that regard, the importance of monitoring and evaluation was pointed out.

8. Support was expressed for the strengthening of peacekeeping operations, preventing diplomacy and the settlement of international disputes or conflicts through negotiation.

9. Concern was expressed on the current global food crisis and its effects on meeting the Millennium Development Goals. In particular, it was pointed out that, in the previous few months, global food prices had spiralled out of control, largely affecting African countries. Views were expressed that the Organization needed to take concrete measures to combat the global food crisis and ensure continued progress in development.

10. Concern was raised over the reference to humanitarian reform in paragraph 18, as it was pointed out that no discussions had taken place on reform, but rather discussions were ongoing on strengthening and improving the Organization. Clarification was sought as to what was meant by "humanitarian reform". Concern was also expressed that the cluster approach had been included, although it was an issue still under discussion among Member States.

11. A view was expressed on the greater involvement of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on issues of systemwide coherence, which would facilitate the direction the Organization would take. Views were also expressed that enhanced coordination in the overall United Nations system would help to better identify objectives and to plan activities. In that regard, it was imperative that the Committee shape clearly defined priorities, so that it could influence the programme of work of the Organization.

Conclusions and recommendations

12. **The Committee noted the changes in the format and narrative of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011.**

13. **The Committee reiterated the importance of the longer-term objectives of the Organization, aimed at ensuring the full achievement of its goals. In that regard, the Committee also stressed the need for coordinated effort by the Secretariat in order to better formulate suitable expected accomplishments in such a way that, at the stage of budget preparation, all activities and outputs mandated by Member States were effectively and efficiently included.**

14. **While recognizing the improvement in logframe, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly continue to encourage programme managers to further improve the qualitative aspects of indicators of achievements to enable better evaluation of results, bearing in mind the importance of defining the indicators in a way which ensured their clear measurability.**

15. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly encourage programme managers, while preparing the programme plan, to take fully into account the obstacles, challenges, lessons learned and unmet goals encountered in the previous biennium, as reflected in the programme performance report.**

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the priorities for the period 2010-2011 contained in paragraph 45 of the plan outline.**

17. **The Committee recommended that programme managers be requested to ensure that all legislative mandates were accurately translated into programmes and subprogrammes, taking into account regulation 4.2 and rule 104.7 (e) of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning and the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions on results-based budgeting.**

18. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to present future plan outlines (part one) of proposed frameworks taking fully into account the guidelines provided in General Assembly resolutions 59/275, 61/235 and 62/224, as well as subsequent relevant resolutions, so as to ensure that they more accurately captured the longer-term objectives of the Organization, based on all mandates that had been approved by the Member States.**

19. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly review further the plan outline (part one) of the proposed framework for the period 2010-2011 so that it more accurately reflected the longer-term objectives of the Organization, based on all mandates that had been approved by the Member States.**

20. **The Committee, reiterating its recommendation contained in paragraph 114 of its report on its forty-seventh session, stressed that the provision of United Nations support to delivering "one United Nations" pilot projects should not prejudge the outcome of the intergovernmental deliberations on the recommendations of the High-Level Panel on System-wide Coherence in the General Assembly.**